



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Towards a Global Recognition Convention



Paris, September 2017

Agenda

10:00–10:05	Opening of the meeting
10:05–10:30	<p>Presentation of the main principles of the Global Convention and the process so far. Mr. Peter Wells, Chief of Section, Section of Higher Education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Why a global convention?▪ The process so far▪ The drafting committee▪ Results from the initial round of consultation with Member States▪ Points to highlight▪ Next steps
10:30–12:00	Questions and answers
12:00	End of the meeting

Agenda

14:00–14:05	Opening of the meeting
14:05–14:30	<p>Presentation of the main principles of the Global Convention and the process so far. Mr. Peter Wells, Chief of Section, Section of Higher Education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Why a global convention?▪ The process so far▪ The drafting committee▪ Results from the initial round of consultation with Member States▪ Points to highlight▪ Next steps
14:30–16:00	Questions and answers
16:00	End of the meeting

- Why a Global Recognition Convention?
- The process to date
- The Drafting Committee
- Results of the initial first round of consultation with Member States
- A few points to highlight
- Next steps

- Open and Fair Recognition of Qualifications as a universal right
- International coherence in recognition processes
- Recognition across regions.
- Recognition as an enabler for quality enhancement of higher education
- Raising the profile and importance of recognition

... more than just recognition at stake

- **Nov 2011:** International Conference of States, Tokyo
- **2012:** Feasibility study
- **Oct 2012:** International Experts' Meeting, Nanjing
- **Nov 2013:** General Conference requests Preliminary Report
- **Nov 2015:** General Conference endorses the Preliminary Report and requests DG to establish a Drafting Committee
- **May 2016–June 2017:** Four Drafting Committee meetings
- **May–June 2017:** Initial Consultation round with Member States

The Drafting Committee



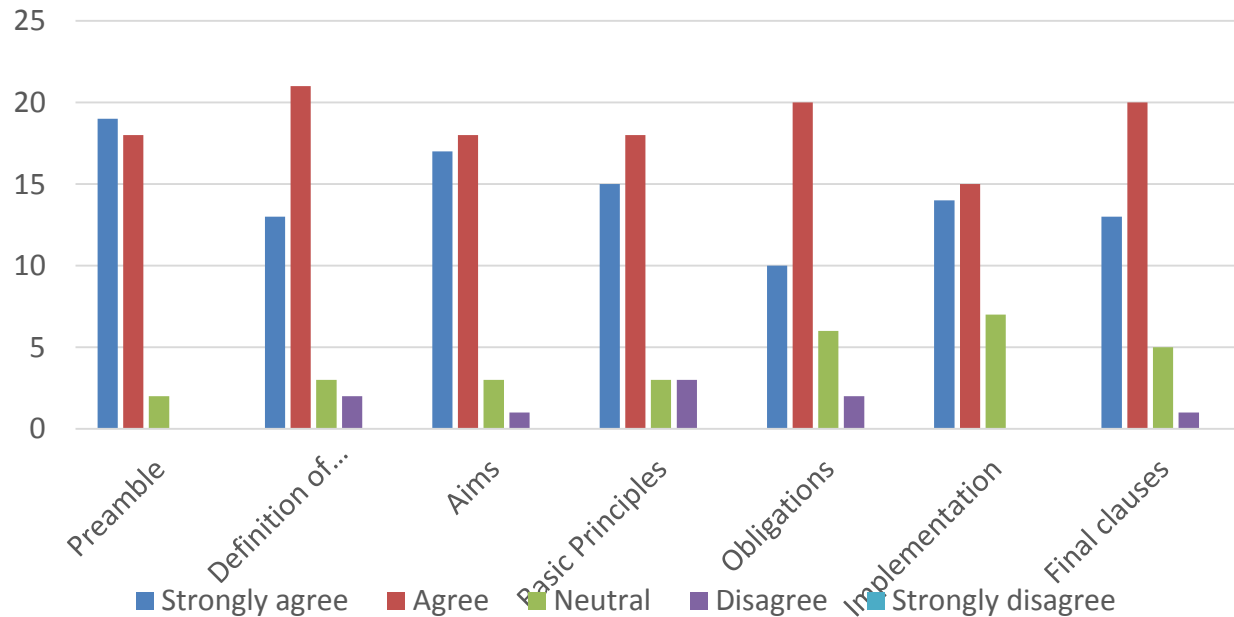
- The Committee consists of 23 experts from all UNESCO regions, appointed by the Director-General of UNESCO in coordination with Member States
- 3 expert nominated by each of the 6 Electoral Groups and 5 nominated directly by the DG
- All serve on the Committee in their private capacity

- Questionnaire sent to all UNESCO Members States, containing 7 questions on the draft convention's sections and likelihood to accept the current text for adoption: *Preamble, Definition of Terms, Aims of the Convention, Basic Principles, Obligations of the Parties, Implementation Mechanisms, Final Clauses*
- In addition to the questionnaire, MS were also encouraged to provide comments and amendments.
- Responses received from 39 Member States in all UNESCO regions, including comprehensive comments.

Results of the initial first round of consultations with States (highlights) cont'd

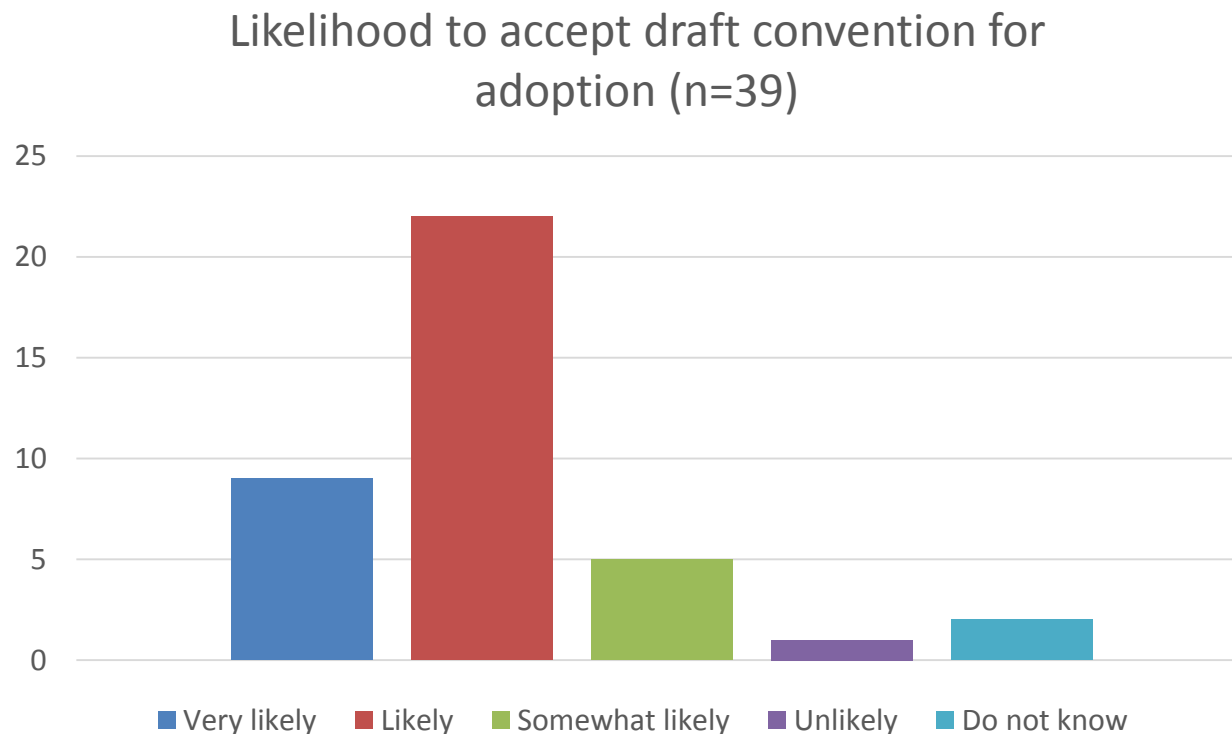
Most Member States “Strongly Agree” or “Agree” on all sections, while some have responded “Neutral” on Obligations and Implementation Mechanisms

Opinions on draft convention sections (n=39)



Results of the initial first round of consultations with States (highlights) cont'd

9 Member States state that they are “Very Likely” to accept the text for adoption, while 22 respond “Likely”; 5 respond “Somewhat Likely”, 1 “Unlikely” and 2 “Do Not Know”



- The Drafting Committee considered Member States' views on the main elements of the draft convention text resulting from the initial, first round of consultations.
- The Committee reviewed the entire text and endorsed a **preliminary draft**.
- The preliminary draft together with a **progress report** on the work on the convention will be examined by the Executive Board (Oct. 2017) and later the General Conference (Nov. 2017).

- The future Global Convention will NOT imply automatic recognition
- The draft text of the Convention will not be submitted for adoption before 2019
- The Regional Conventions will continue being binding

- **October 2017:** the preliminary draft of the convention text together with proposed modalities of further consultations with Member States and relevant stakeholders will be examined by the Executive Board
- **November 2017:** these documents will then be submitted to the General Conference of UNESCO
- **Jan–Sept 2018:** the Secretariat will propose to the General Conference to undertake throughout 2018 wide consultations with a view to revisit, refine and update the text

For more information:

<http://en.unesco.org/themes/higher-education/recognition-qualifications/global-convention>

glocohed@unesco.org

Thank you!

Mr. Peter Wells
Chief of Higher Education Section



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Towards a Global Recognition Convention



Paris, September 2017